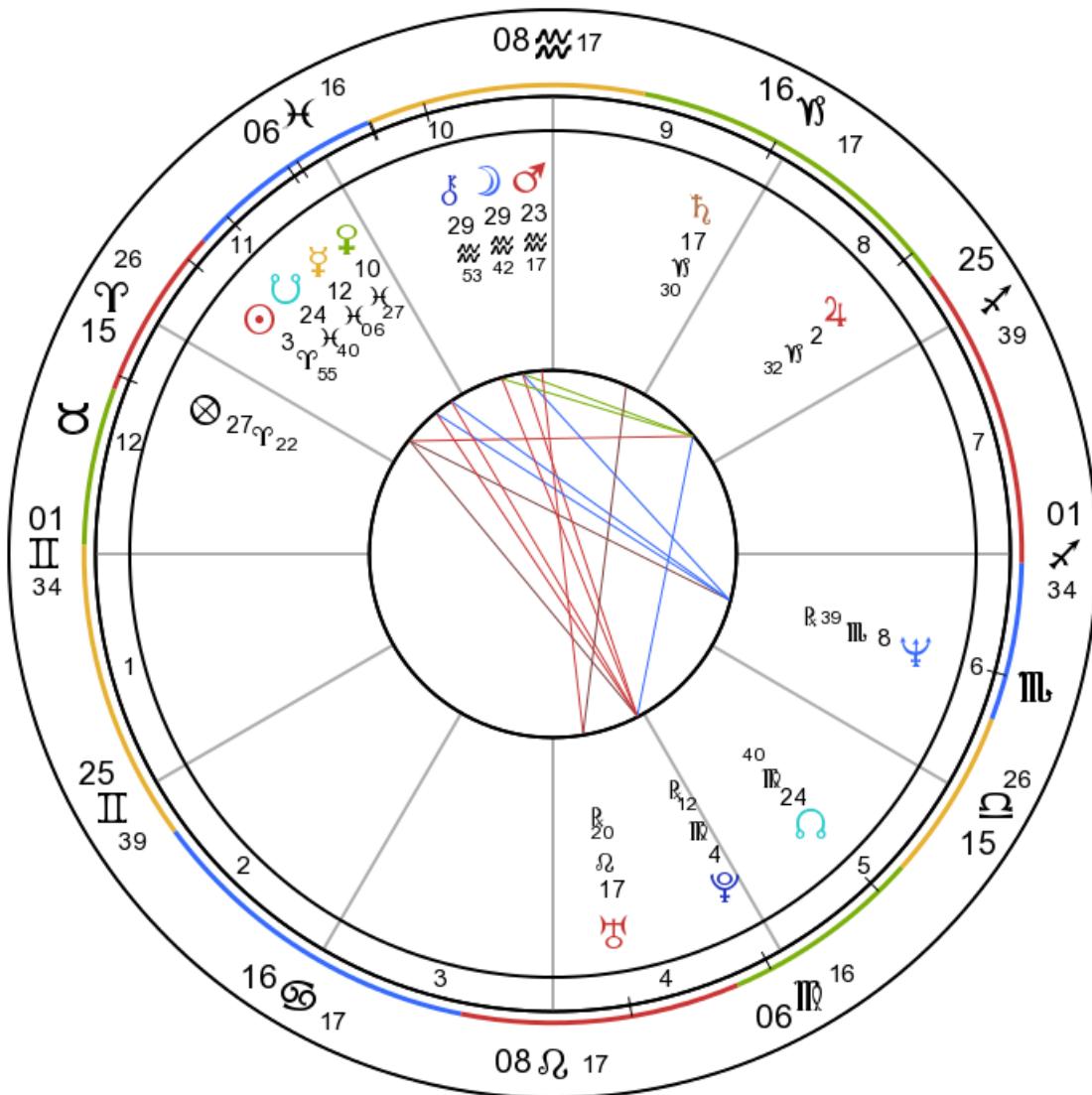


Solar Return Report for Aretha Franklin



Report generated for Aretha Franklin
 Aretha: Mar 25, 1942, 00:00 CWT
 Memphis, TN (35N08, 90W02)
 For year beginning March, 1960
 in New York, NY (40N42, 74W00)

Interpretation text by Henry Seltzer and Maria DeSimone
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Introduction

Your Solar Return chart is a snapshot of the heavens at the moment that the Sun returns to its natal position each year. The chart is cast for the exact date and time of day for this event, which might be one day before or after your actual birthday. Note that an accurate birthtime for your own chart is necessary for an accurate Solar Return chart. This chart speaks to your year, from birthday to birthday. Analyzing the planetary positions, and the aspects that they make to each other, gives extremely

accurate and valuable information regarding the qualities and the key challenges for this year-long period of time. The feeling of this new Solar Return phase kicks in a few months before your birthday each year.

About the Author

Henry Seltzer is a consulting astrologer with over 20 years experience. A well-known speaker and writer, he holds degrees from MIT, NYU and the University of California, San Diego, and created the popular TimePassages software in 1995. His approach to astrology is based on personal transformation, an optimistic assessment that more than anything, people want to understand the fundamental meaning of their lives and grow as individuals. Henry currently maintains an active astrological counseling practice in Santa Cruz, CA; to learn more, visit www.astrograph.com.

Sun and Moon

Sun in Aries, in the Eleventh House

The Sun is the most important planet to consider in a Solar Return chart since it tells you where and how you're likely to focus your basic energy over this twelve-month period until your next birthday. With the Sun placed in the Eleventh House, the emphasis is on group affiliations, as well as your highest aspirations and the uninhibited pursuit of your right to ultimate happiness and dreams come true.

Your energy is reaching for the stars over these twelve months! Absolutely nothing can stop you or get in the way of realizing your goals. Whereas you may have been on the side of conventionality at times in the past, this is your opportunity, even your mandate, to break free of consensus thinking and come up with your own set of rules that uniquely make sense for you.

This may also be a year that brings change because change is necessary to growth. During this year-long period when your Solar Return Sun is in the house of progress and goals, the only comfortable way to move is forward. Your energy will be high as you are stimulated into embracing necessary changes because you are so close to living your dreams.

This is also a year of powerful friendship interaction. You could make new ones or come to value existing ones in new ways. Friends can become lovers at this time, and equally, because you are so socially activated, lovers can take on the characteristics of friends.

There could also be a powerful group affiliations formed over the course of this year that enable you to more intensely realize your aspirations. You are very aware of group dynamics, your own contribution, and how the values of the group energize and enhance your own. This is a year when you could be challenged to think even bigger than you ever imagined.

Sun in strong square with Jupiter

The planetary energies conflict; internal and creative tensions bring rich rewards through effort over time.

With the Sun in dynamic aspect to Jupiter in your Solar Return chart, over the twelve-month period until your next birthday the emphasis is on expanding your personality and identity into a more enlightened awareness.

You might experience a great deal of success and reward this year. You also could experience an over-expansion with resulting losses. If you triumph it's likely that a renewed sense of faith and optimism in yourself will be the catalyst. In addition, your personal philosophy, sense of spirituality and belief system will likely be important factors in your growth. You also might find that others either personify good fortune for you or place conflicts in the way of your obtaining it.

The department in which these gains and increased self-confidence will take place depends on the house where the Sun is located. This area of life could also witness an over-expansion as well, so that it is prudent to maintain a sense of cautious rather than fully exuberant optimism in order to create greater balance in this area.

You have the potential to truly improve yourself in many areas of life this year so that you do well to take advantage of whatever opportunities come your way. There is likely to be an air of nobility and dignity in the way that you go about things, so that you might also be seen as wiser and more honorable by others.

Sun in inconjunct with Neptune

The planetary energies do not flow smoothly, one or the other predominates; discrimination must be employed.

With the Sun conjunct or in dynamic aspect to Neptune in your Solar Return chart, over the twelve-month period until your next birthday the emphasis is on your awareness of your sensitive side and your sense of spirituality.

It is possible that you could suffer some type of ego loss this year, increasing your sense of the numinous otherworldly planes of existence. You could also become involved with media, visual arts, music or poetry, since all of these can be expressions of your connection to Spirit. Any of these representations of the divine could become an enormous factor for you over the course of this year-long period. This is most likely to be experienced in the area represented by the house where your Sun is placed. You also could find that you lack the ability to properly define this area in your life.

This could be a good thing, or it could prove slightly disastrous. You may become confused for example, or feel like you don't matter in the scheme of things. In extreme instances you might endure an almost complete dissolution of your identity. This is also a year in which decisions could be difficult and unclear, or you may go back and forth. It helps to cultivate your intuition and to develop an approach that is practical but not too attached to results, leaving ultimate outcomes in the hands of the cosmos.

It is good to be aware of the potential for escaping the practical earthly plane altogether in an unhealthy way. Some examples of what you might want to consciously avoid this year include substance or alcohol abuse, or indeed any form of escapism. You also might need to be aware of feeling needy or inhabiting a victim role, one where you expect others to save you. You benefit when you guard against the potential for over-identifying as the one who must sacrifice completely for others.

The positive manifestation of this energy lies in an enhanced sense of compassion and a feeling of oneness with the universe and everyone around you. You could make tremendous spiritual progress this year, or at least feel that you more fully access the spark of divinity that lies inside you.

Sun in inconjunct with Pluto

The planetary energies do not flow smoothly, one or the other predominates; discrimination must be employed.

With the Sun conjunct or in dynamic aspect to Pluto in your Solar Return chart, over the twelve-month period until your next birthday the emphasis is on your personal will and the manner in which you choose to use it.

This configuration indicates an intense year when many factors in your life could radically alter. You are plumbing your own depths and what you find might scare you at first until you come to better understand yourself. It is likely that learning the proper use of your willful nature could be a significant theme over the course of this year-long period. You have a strong will and urge to power at this time.

You might find yourself engaging in manipulative or even compulsive behavior. If so, the more you can grow your awareness of your hidden motivations for such behavior the better you can cope. You are being forced to address your own shadow side and this can be an intimidating prospect. If you are in the midst of this intense energy and not using it wisely you will eventually come to regret it. What you are after through all these changes is the eventual and complete transformation of some aspect of your personality.

You might experience some type of cataclysmic change or ending in a particular area of your life this year, perhaps as represented by the house position of the Sun. This would be in order to prepare for a form of renewal in this area.

This year could present you with an intense experience of dissolution and rebirth that can be difficult to handle while it is happening. If you have faith in your process you will come out on the other side of this period intact, and with magic, regeneration and integration to show for the depth of your inner journey.

Moon in Aquarius, in the Tenth House

The Moon in your Solar Return chart indicates an area of emotional intensity and challenge, which is also part of a process of purposeful evolution. There is progress from year to year, so that this year's placement builds on earlier ones. With the Moon in the Tenth House, over this twelve-month period until your next birthday you are likely to experience fluctuations in your career and professional status.

Despite the fact that you likely feel a degree of insecurity concerning your professional direction at this time, do not underestimate the potential of this year-long period for you. You may achieve brilliant success. In fact, recognition is nearly guaranteed, although that nagging sense of it all being taken away may still haunt you. If so, it helps if you can recognize this feeling as an illusion and put it behind you.

You will be given many opportunities over the course of this year, as the instincts and the ambition that you have drive you toward honor and success. You might become noted, renowned or even famous in your field. Your emotional receptivity to

the public is one of the secrets to your success at this time. The more upstanding your reputation has been in the past, the more public recognition you can expect to gain.

There may be downs as well as ups in career to contend with over these twelve months, but they will turn out to be in your best interest overall. You could also be challenged by authority figures to make more security-oriented moves which interfere with your own inner voice. If this is the case, you benefit when you listen to your inner voice.

This is not a static year for career, and your success at this time relies on your ability to change and go with the flow. Ready or not, destiny is calling, and you win when you rise to the occasion.

Moon in strong sextile with Jupiter

The planetary energies flow together, open into new possibilities, new connections.

With the Moon in flowing aspect to Jupiter in your Solar Return chart, over these twelve months leading up to your next birthday, your emotional emphasis is on expansion as well as enjoying a better sense of instinctive faith in yourself.

Your emotions may be powerful and joyful over the course of this year-long period since more of everything is one of Jupiter's favorite themes. As a result, you could well experience an amazing level of soul growth.

It's likely that you will feel a strong degree of emotion this year. Your sensitivity is enhanced while your faith in the good of mankind and the universe is abundantly present. Your enthusiasm and sense of hope is likely to be quite inspiring.

You are indeed rich in faith and idealism right now. The conviction that rainbows are behind every cloud will be likely to color your attitude over these twelve months.

Your values and ethics are also deeply felt this year. There is a sense of dignity and wisdom that surrounds your soul. You may find that you search for increased security during this period but if you do so it will be in the most moral way possible. An instinctive knowledge of the spiritual workings of the universe is available to you for the asking.

Moon in strong conjunction with Chiron

The strongest blend of the energies represented by these two planets.

With the Moon conjunct Chiron in your Solar Return chart, over these twelve months leading up to your next birthday, your emotional emphasis is on tuning in to your instincts in a positive way to promote healing. This is a period of time when you will be in closer touch with your emotional woundings from the past and when you have the chance to understand yourself much better at your deeper levels and move beyond your original hurt.

Your emotions might be intensified dramatically this year. Painful issues could arise within the areas of relationship in particular, and with parental nurturing you received or its lack. You might also have a difficult time drawing boundaries between yourself and others. You are being called to investigate old and perhaps dysfunctional patterns of relating. If you stick to the task, the eventual effect of all the attention that you are able to bring to this area will be greater self-reliance and a better acceptance of the feminine and nurturing side of yourself.

It is also possible for you to have a profound healing experience with your mother or an important female figure in your life over these twelve months. Wounds from prior associations that left you feeling raw, unsafe or not nurtured in some way could be released in a powerful catharsis. The positive manifestation of this energy you could also promote a healing relationship between those you nurture most in your own intimate relationships.

Over the course of a year of powerful emotional healing, and one in which your feelings are also enlivened by a growing sense of your spirituality, you have the potential of being able to make a better connection with your deeper needs and with the more integrated self within you that is struggling to emerge.

Moon in opposition with Pluto

The planetary energies are polarized; outer events stimulate their interaction; integration is the challenge.

With the Moon conjunct or in dynamic aspect to Pluto in your Solar Return chart, over these twelve months leading up to your next birthday, your emotional emphasis is on better understanding your own unconscious psychological motivations.

Aligning your emotions and instincts is tricky, and could involve others around you in power struggles or issues of control.

There are likely to be many subtle emotionally charged undercurrents in your life over the course of this year, particularly in matters having to do with the house or houses where these two planets reside. You might need to overcome feeling stifled in this area, or encounter threats to your emotional well-being and sense of security.

Perhaps you will have to confront a relationship where you are being emotionally blackmailed; or it is also possible that you are the one doing the manipulation. It helps when you can recognize that these emotional games are the sign of deeper psychological battles in which one person attempts to control the other only in order to preserve their own sense of security.

This is an important year for you, and one in which your emotional strength is great. There are undoubtedly lessons for you in terms of embracing the need to be in control of your own situation and at the same time to use your power wisely. There could also be dramatic transformations in your security needs and your emotional connections to others. It's up to you to make certain that these changes, rather than enabling a power hungry persona, engender instead a newly empowered sense of self.

The ruler of your Sun Sign is

Mars in Aquarius, in the Tenth House

The ruler of your Sun sign is characteristic of your personality:

Mars in your Solar Return chart indicates an area of outwardly expressed energy and focus over this twelve-month period until your next birthday. With Mars in the Tenth House, this is your perfect year to use professional ambition in a leading and pioneering fashion. If you've been itching to start a new business for yourself or go after a major promotion, now is the time.

Regardless of your ultimate career vision, you are certainly not afraid of hard work this year and you're willing to do whatever it takes as you aggressively pursue your career goals.

Your independence is the secret to your success this year. You are a self-starter and have plenty of ability to forge ahead in new projects and to not question yourself along the way. In fact you are so unreservedly independent that you could come into conflict with others as you forge ahead.

If you're not feeding your inner drive this year, then you are especially likely to have a great deal of anger and resentment to contend with over your career path. It will most likely be directed towards your boss or another authority figure connected to your work. If this is how you choose to direct your energy over the next twelve months then a career catastrophe is virtually guaranteed. If you're not happy in your choice of career, this is the year to move on.

The pursuit of an identity in alignment with your highest calling in life is your greatest desire this year and it simply must be achieved. What might be most important is to finally discover that you have nothing to prove to anyone else but yourself.

Important Features

Pluto in Virgo, in the Fourth House

With Pluto placed in the fourth house of your Solar Return chart, over the twelve-month period leading to your next birthday there is an emphasis on transformation and regeneration of your home and family life.

It is highly probable that this year you will have a major transition take place in your home life, involving either your physical home itself or else your psychological roots that form your emotional base. You could also find that you move into a new home altogether. The emotional impact on you during this process is likely to be intense, but it is in some way due to your own need and desire for such a change.

There is stress inherent in this placement for you over this year-long period. Any move or remodel will likely have complications or hidden factors that make things more difficult to achieve. You could experience struggles with other people involved, such as contractors, builders or movers. There is likely to be a significant transition for one or more family members this year as well. It could be that one person moves in or out of your home. You might also go through control and manipulation issues with family members at this time.

Your emotions are volatile this year, and it is also possible that you will either be the victim of emotional manipulation or the perpetrator. The force of your emotions at this time cannot be ignored. The most positive way to utilize this energy is through a conscious focus of your will to be in command of your instincts. It helps when you can recognize that everyone around you is motivated by the same thing - the intense need for emotional security.

This is a pivotal year that brings much-needed change and depth of metamorphosis into your life. Some new and fundamental aspect of your home basis is struggling to be born. There is of necessity a certain amount of chaos and upset associated with such a major transition. Things go better when you decide not to dwell on the chaos but to await the birth.

Chiron in Aquarius, in the Tenth House

Chiron in your Solar Return chart indicates an area of difficulty that is likely to come up over this twelve-month period until your next birthday where there will be also an opportunity to heal. With Chiron placed in the Tenth House this year, the healing emphasis is on issues of career and achievement.

Chiron in the Tenth House of your Solar Return chart indicates that over the course of this year-long period you are likely to encounter issues that could come up for you in the context of career, personal power and authority. These issues typically involve internal wounding from an earlier period of your life when you were less prepared to deal with the pain and even shame that was associated with them. Particular trauma could have therefore been walled away from your conscious gaze for many years, inhabiting a hidden part of your personality and creating patterns of dysfunctional behavior that come out when you least expect them to. The attempts that you have made in your life up to now to deal with these dark places within you will have prepared you for this more intense year of facing such patterns head-on.

The energy of this configuration can be subtle, especially if you have been doing your homework all this time in recognizing and accepting all parts of yourself. If you do not align yourself to this task, such hidden complexes may continually come up to haunt you, until finally you do make the effort and work through the associated issues. Otherwise you might find that you are at the mercy of situations that impede your vital force to act with authority and make a responsible contribution to society.

There are difficult early experiences specific to this placement that are particularly likely to emerge now so that you can deal with them and move on. These include being too forcefully controlled in your youth, so that you have a knee-jerk reaction to authority of all kinds. These also might include feelings of a lack of self-worth which leaves you seeking honors and recognition or perhaps becoming compulsively drawn to seeking power, authority and control in compensation.

This is obviously a very good time to get in more conscious touch with your hidden feelings, attempt to bring these into the light and to explore them in detail. Once you have begun this process, it will continue. This a natural part of your growth, and it becomes easier and easier to confront and integrate the scariest parts of yourself so that you can begin to wield a more conscious form of personal power.

Neptune in Scorpio, in the Sixth House

With Neptune placed in the sixth house of your Solar Return chart, over this twelve-month period leading up to your next birthday there is a spiritual emphasis on your sense of being useful and of service to others and in matters of your everyday work and physical health.

There is a sense of extreme idealism present this year regarding work and daily life. You might launch yourself into a new exercise or diet plan, take on dramatic projects in your workplace or delve into the more spiritual components of health and wellness. It is also possible that you could become confused, deceived or disillusioned regarding what is concretely possible in these areas. If you feel unfulfilled in your work it can manifest in a myriad of ways, including an adverse effect on your health, and this in turn might stimulate you to seek other options for yourself that are in greater alignment with your sense of spiritual purpose.

On a more mundane level, you might experience confusion or even outright deception this year with your co-workers or job duties, believing something is expected of you when it really isn't. This is also a year to carefully monitor your intake of any drugs or alcohol as it's likely that your sensitivity to these substances will increase.

You might find yourself being of more compassionate service to others over the course of this year than ever before. You also might need to beware of overextending yourself. Although service is an important part of the ebb and flow of the universe, taking it to an extreme can lead to drowning your own self-interest in an abyss of self-sacrifice.

You can rise above these seeming difficulties by seeking balance and by staying true to yourself and your ideals, accepting that the universe has its own agenda that is not identical to yours even as it beneficially guides you forward. All in all, this is a year of great spiritual possibility. As you become more open to the mystical side of life and begin to apply this new-found understanding, you are coming into a better concept of your true mission in life.

Other Natal Planets

Mercury in Pisces, in the Eleventh House

Mercury in your Solar Return chart indicates an area of mental intensity and focus over this twelve-month period until your next birthday. With Mercury in the Eleventh House, you are thinking over and planning exactly how to plug yourself into the social matrix and what group affiliations make sense for you to sponsor.

Networking with friends and with groups that you favor will prove to be quite rewarding for you over the course of this year-

long period. You'll enjoy a great deal of social activity and mental stimulation through them, and you may find that these friends are more tolerant than anyone else of a new mindset that is birthing within you.

Freedom of thought is an important issue for you this year. You will likely find yourself in situations where you are required to break out of the box of a more traditional mindset in order to pursue your own progressive ideas. This might not be easy at first since you're likely to run into some resistance. Still, you can't seem to bear the thought at this time of having to think by anyone else's rules. You must make your own. You will align yourself with organizations that don't hold you back from the questions the rest of the world tells you that you shouldn't even ask.

Refining and revitalizing your dreams is also important this year. You are thinking and making decisions for the future based on an optimistic assessment. Something of what you plan is very likely to manifest!

Venus in Pisces, in the Eleventh House

Venus in your Solar Return chart indicates an area of relationship intensity and focus over this twelve-month period until your next birthday. With Venus in the Eleventh House, you are likely to seek social interaction in a variety of places rather than just in one primary relationship. This includes friendships in your life and group associations that you favor.

There is a strong drive for freedom in relationship at this time that may lead to involvement with a wider circle, or perhaps attractions outside of a committed partnership. You might for example fall for a friend. The connection you have with someone who you would define as a pal or acquaintance may take on added significance. You are somewhat detached emotionally during this period, so that deep involvement is not your strong suit.

It's also likely that friends, or perhaps a group you are part of, will be instrumental in bringing out your talents and abilities this year, increasing your sense of self-worth. Friends might also prove instrumental in helping you to achieve your goals, financial or otherwise. Group interactions could provide opportunities for professional advancement.

This is also a good year for financial growth from your chosen profession. If you are self employed, you may consider increasing your rates or it may be an excellent time to ask for a raise.

In general, friends and acquaintances believe in you right now and help to inspire you. You will value the concept of networking over the course of this year-long period, and will tend to promote humanitarian goals through social action. You may be involved in group demonstrations or peaceful protests. What you believe in is not going to be kept to yourself, and gains larger significance when it is shared.

Jupiter in Capricorn, in the Eighth House

Jupiter in your Solar Return chart indicates an area of positive attitude and favorable circumstances over this twelve-month period until your next birthday. With Jupiter placed in the Eighth House this year, the emphasis is on intimate connection with others and also on expanding your finances by tapping into the power of other's resources.

The financial side of this picture could happen in a myriad of ways. If you are married, you might benefit from an increase in your spouse's income. Another common possibility with this placement is that you will inherit money or receive a gift, settlement, royalties or other dividends. You are likely to do quite well this year in terms of investments so you might want to make note of this factor and take advantage when an opportunity comes up.

Since Jupiter expands whatever it touches, if you're in debt or owe taxes or are somehow involved in a sticky financial situation, it's possible that this year might see these issues blown out of proportion. Look across the chart to the Second House for more information about this potential pitfall, and if you do encounter these types of problems of course it is good to be forewarned so that you can take appropriate measures in order to turn things around.

Regarding intimate connection with significant persons in your life, you may well find that you enjoy a more fulfilling sex life over these twelve months, perhaps with a philosophical dividend. It might be that you will spend time this year considering your ethical stance on issues of sexuality and reconcile this with your more taboo and erotic side.

You are also very likely during the course of this year to expand your awareness of the hidden underpinnings of the psyche. You may experience opportunities to dig into the most shrouded portions of your soul and to be sensitive to and able to tune in to the emotions of others. This is a year that will reveal gifts of wisdom that you hold inside.

Saturn in Capricorn, in the Ninth House

Saturn in your Solar Return chart indicates an area of additional responsibility and concentration, perhaps contraction, over this twelve-month period until your next birthday. With Saturn placed in the Ninth House this year, there will likely be an emphasis on the structuring a responsible and realistic belief system and crystallizing your higher mind to reflect a more

careful thought process.

This development might occur in several ways. One possible scenario is that you will be involved in a formal learning situation that you might initially find restricting or formidable. Once you accept the need to work hard in the realm of your intellect it's likely such studies will become quite enriching.

In general, these twelve months will put you in situations where your beliefs are tested. You'll be forced to assimilate whether or not these ideas are still realistic for your present life situation. In some rare cases, your faith in spiritual matters will be tested and you might lose conviction for anything you cannot bind in tangible ways.

After you've done the internal work necessary to gain this new practical wisdom and insight, you are likely to spread this knowledge to others with confident authority. In addition, you can focus the expansion of your own consciousness in a very sensible way.

Uranus in Leo, in the Fourth House

Uranus in your Solar Return chart indicates an area of enlightenment, change and freedom-seeking activity over this twelve-month period until your next birthday. With Uranus placed in the fourth house this year, the emphasis for unexpected change is on your home and family life, as well as your deepest sense of security.

There are likely to be striking changes at home that can be likened to a tornado. There could be wreckage and all the walls may come crumbling down around you. Know that this process of destruction does have a purpose. It will prompt you to rebuild something that is more progressive and suited to helping your accelerate your soul growth.

You might physically move into a new home or perhaps renovate an existing living space. Family members that live with you are likely to go through erratic and unpredictable personal changes that affect the family dynamic. You might feel uprooted and will need to redefine the boundaries you require to feel safe.

You might find yourself emotionally unstable, especially if you have a difficult time embracing change. You are likely to feel that your personal security has been threatened. If you run away from your support system during this time, the year could be quite a challenge to navigate. You might have a difficult time finding your way home.

The brilliant gift of this placement is that you will develop an ability to care for yourself under any circumstances. Your soul is likely to be relocated directly into your most conscious awareness. It'll be a true awakening.

Other Aspects

Mercury in strong conjunction with Venus

The strongest blend of the energies represented by these two planets.

With Mercury conjunct Venus in your Solar Return chart, over this twelve-month period leading up to your next birthday there is an emphasis on harmonious and diplomatic communication patterns, particularly in your closest relationships.

This is a year in which you are prone to a genuine love of learning. You speak and think like a polished official and are able to effectively charm your way out of just about anything. You're likely to be able to influence the opinions and decisions of others thanks to your ability to balance any topic with effortless grace.

If you are in sales you should have a fortunate year! Indeed, this is a good year for you to make any major purchase that requires negotiation. In general, financial matters will tend to flow more smoothly this year, and with better planning. Your relationships benefit as well. You're likely to be more interested in learning from your partner as well as simply talking and inspiring each other with your words.

If you are a writer or teacher, or are in the arts or communication fields you will enjoy the gift of beautiful words combined with stylish expression. This is a good year to push yourself in these areas, one in which you are almost certain to be happy with the outcome. In any event, this year your ability to increase your sense of self-worth through applying your intellect is strong.

Venus in strong trine with Neptune

The planetary energies flow smoothly; the connection is easy and beneficial.

With Venus in flowing aspect to Neptune in your Solar Return chart, over this twelve-month period until your next birthday there is an emphasis on spirituality in relationship. An otherworldly art form could claim part of your awareness over this

period of time. You may find yourself to be more sympathetic to spiritual values than to flesh and blood partners; or you may feel the desire for an elusive soul mate connection that does not easily find its resolution.

You could wind up meeting someone over the course of this year-long period that makes you certain that you've found your cosmic other half, so that the two of you generate sparks of the divine each time you connect. This can also happen with an existing partner. It is also possible that you feel completely lost in your connection, as being more ethereal than realistic. Equally, your relationship could reach a new level of mutual compassion.

In terms of resources, you might feel that your finances are undefined in some way. There could be some change in your circumstances this year that demands your eyes remain wide open despite your tendency to want to escape. You might need to take a closer look.

The positive side of this aspect is the potential for you to see the divine through your experience or through the eyes of your partner, which can be wonderful. It benefits you to remember to balance the equation by taking account of the human side as well.

Jupiter in strong trine with Pluto

The planetary energies flow smoothly; the connection is easy and beneficial.

With Jupiter in flowing aspect to Pluto in your Solar Return chart, over this twelve-month period until your next birthday, the emphasis is on your will and your ability to transform. This year there are likely be challenges but you will have the resources to handle them, and a wellspring of inner reserve that can get you through just about anything.

While it's likely that you'll be asked to dig deeply into your psyche this year, the potential you have for growth as a result is unsurpassed. Your ability to deal with problems is quite strong, and while control issues can arise this can also lead to healing of these issues.

The changes that transpire over the course of this year might test you, but coming out the other side will affect your faith in yourself in a way that is ultimately positive. Honestly confronting your demons enriches your soul.

Mercury in trine with Neptune

The planetary energies flow smoothly; the connection is easy and beneficial.

With Mercury in flowing aspect to Neptune in your Solar Return chart, over this twelve-month period leading up to your next birthday your mental emphasis is on cultivating a compassionate sense of oneness with others, and connecting your mind with your heart.

Your imagination, sensitivity and creativity soar this year. It's a wonderful time to pursue any type of activity combining visual or musical ability with communication and mind, such as art, photography, music or poetry.

This is also a year when compassion and idealism could become paramount in your thought process, replacing down-to-earth practicality. The potential is there for you to become lost in fantasies, or to over-idealize your thinking to the point of self-deception. It pays to be cautious about a possible lack of realism concerning your own communication or how others treat you. Facts are variable with mere logic taking second place to a somewhat nebulous sense of idealism.

You might also find that you require conscious effort and eye opening to get to the bottom of events that you experience. There is an elusive nature to your thoughts right now that may sidetrack cogent analysis.

On the other hand, this is also a year when you are capable of exceptional spiritual awareness including psychic sensitivity into the true motivations of others. Your inspired mind can be put to good use as long as appropriate safeguards are kept in place. This could very well be your best year - one in which you embrace your true potential and begin to explore more fully the spiritual essence of your life vision.

Jupiter in sextile with Chiron

The planetary energies flow together, open into new possibilities, new connections.

With Jupiter in flowing aspect to Chiron in the Solar Return chart, over this twelve-month period until your next birthday, the emphasis is on your ability to truly heal.

This is a year when your inner childhood wounds might be calling out to you for increased recognition and acceptance. These often lodge in the unconscious where they can fester, until some event in later life brings them to consciousness. This is a powerful year for you when some of these ancient traumas might become activated, hopefully for the purpose of moving

through them toward new patterns of understanding. Simply the recognition of these formerly walled-off parts of yourself is an important step, and leads to acceptance and healing.

This is also a year in which your belief systems might be called into question. You might find yourself reorganizing your thinking with respect to the beliefs that have come down to you through your parental heritage, so that instead of accepting these without questioning them you must instead go your own way and work the ore from your own mines.

This is also apt to be a year in which you heal through your own creative expansion. Spirit is working through you in a variety of self-expressive ways. It helps to remember that the greatest teachers in life also remain eternal students. They know the cup of wisdom can never be filled.

Saturn in inconjunct with Uranus

The planetary energies do not flow smoothly, one or the other predominates; discrimination must be employed.

SaturnUranus5

With Saturn conjunct or in dynamic aspect with Uranus in your Solar Return chart, over this twelve-month period until your next birthday, there is an emphasis on re-examining the existing structures of your life. This is especially true if strong aspects from Saturn or Uranus exist also to the personal planets, Sun through Mars.

This configuration in your Solar Return chart indicates a year of change that is likely to be quite challenging. You may be called upon to tear down outworn patterns in order to build firmer, more fitting foundations for your existence that better correlate with who you are today.

The urge to radically resist authority and consensus thinking is dominant for you right now, and for good reason. Specific matters in your life that have been requiring systematic renovation will be up for absolute change for you over the course of this year. It's possible that you will choose to consciously disrupt existing stability in favor of a renewed vision of what life could represent for you.

The changes that are thrust upon you at this time are chaotic but only superficially. If you do wind up causing upheaval, it's apt to be done from a realistic rather than a reckless vantage point. You are likely to be well aware in some part of your psyche of what needs to be torn down and what should appropriately take its place.

In certain areas of your life, perhaps those that are indicated by the house position of Uranus, the constraints on your personal freedom might seem unduly onerous and need to be challenged. You may in fact demand a complete release from current restraints in order to go beyond previously conceived limitations that proved stifling.

One thing is for certain; in this year of change, the only authority that fully exists for you will be that of the structures that you alone choose, and that match your highest vision for yourself going forward.

Moon in weak conjunction with Venus

The strongest blend of the energies represented by these two planets.

With the Moon conjunct Venus in your Solar Return chart, over these twelve months leading up to your next birthday, your emotional emphasis is on your feelings in relation to your financial and relationship security.

It is possible that your finances could fluctuate dramatically - either to your benefit or to your detriment - over the course of this year-long period. The values you adhere to could also become a focus and an area of change, as well as the relationships in your life.

Emotional fulfillment can be achieved this year through financial or relationship harmony. If there is an imbalance, your moods could tend to become difficult. Your own emotions might depend too much on the emotional well being of those close to you.

It could also be a year that you are financially dependent on someone. If this is the case, having this dependency might wear on your sense of security and affect you emotionally.

In relationships this year you may long for the deepest type of romantic connection. You're likely to become emotionally attached to someone whether or not you are already taken. If you are happy in your existing relationship then the domestic and peaceful feelings of love with that person are likely to be strengthened.

Moon in weak conjunction with Mars

The strongest blend of the energies represented by these two planets.

With the Moon conjunct Mars in your Solar Return chart over these twelve months leading up to your next birthday, your emotional emphasis is on integrating your instincts and security needs with your desires. You are also intent on taking the proper action to ensure total security for yourself.

This might be easier said than done. You may find that you often feel a combination of moodiness, anger and frustration. You're apt to experience situations that challenge your comfort level to such an extreme that action is your only choice. Still, it's likely to be an uncomfortable compromise to lash out rather than to passively give in. Emotional volatility could be a hallmark of your life as you move through the experiences of an interesting year.

The good news is that for this year you are endowed with a spectacular emotional courage that will not falter. You will have an easy access to this energy and fearlessly attack anything that jeopardizes your sense of comfort. Just be aware that you also might find in yourself the potential to lash out and attack when you are feeling threatened.

It's likely that you will be able to use this enhanced passion to help or nurture someone - or some project - that requires direct action. In this case your emotional excitement and powerful feeling nature can be of great service to a larger plan. It is also the road to a better integration of these energies in your life.

Moon in weak trine with Neptune

The planetary energies flow smoothly; the connection is easy and beneficial.

With the Moon in flowing aspect to Neptune in your Solar Return chart, over these twelve months leading up to your next birthday, your emotional emphasis is on gaining a deeper awareness of yourself at soul-level. You will likely experience some degree of dissolution of the boundaries between yourself and others and come to a deeper understanding of your own sensitivity and compassion.

The boundaries between the spiritual world and your own soul are diaphanous now. Your intuition is could also be enhanced this year although you may have difficulty trusting that. You might find that your feelings are confused, or embrace illusory notions that blur the distinction between your dreams and your insights, or you might suffer actual emotional deception or manipulation this year as a result of being dreamier than usual and more willing to blindly trust.

You also might be tempted to see potential or actual relationships through rose-colored glasses and therefore evade the reality of the situation, or in some other way escape what is really going on with you. It helps when you can consistently return to the rock-bottom truth of your own standpoint. This is not an obvious path since it might also be easy for you to attempt to avoid your innermost self or the truth of who you truly are.

In a more positive manifestation, you can use the gift of your enhanced sensitivity this year to extend compassion and understanding to people around you. When you feel the power of unconditional love you can both see someone for all that they are and then forgive and love them despite their flaws. Although you must guard against being taken advantage of, you are in an essentially beautiful space right now regarding the world and those that you encounter in it.

Mercury in weak opposition with Pluto

The planetary energies are polarized; outer events stimulate their interaction; integration is the challenge.

With Mercury conjunct or in dynamic aspect to Pluto in your Solar Return chart, over this twelve-month period leading up to your next birthday your mental emphasis is on your ability to penetrate consciously into the deepest levels of your own and others' needs and desires.

Over the course of this year-long period, you have the ability to see deeply into your own desire nature, and to feel and respond to the motivations of others around you. With unconscious desires so near the surface of your awareness, it might feel at times as though words hardly need to be spoken. You are very sensitive to the undercurrents of communication, such as body language, and can trust your instinctive understanding. Your end of the communication might also come into the picture as a factor, since there is the possibility for unconscious material from your own psyche to spill over into consciousness and manifest in direct language.

The power of your words and your observations are true gifts for you now. If you are confident in their application and proceed in alignment with your own highest purpose, there will be much gain, both spiritual and material.

The ability to use your willpower to control your thoughts and mindset is also likely to hold a deep fascination for you at this time. You must however beware of the attachments of ego in creating too great a dependency on the power of your communication for self-aggrandizement or in getting your own way at others' expense. Mind games and mental power struggles could become a dominating theme.

You can harness this exquisite awareness of thoughts and motives to gain priceless insight into your own behavior and the complexity within your relationships. Your mind is inquiring this year, and is seeking to transform itself along lines that are more favorable to your evolutionary purpose in this lifetime. The knowledge that you gain regarding yourself and others can inform your process of growth for years to come.

Venus in weak opposition with Pluto

The planetary energies are polarized; outer events stimulate their interaction; integration is the challenge.

With Venus conjunct or in dynamic aspect to Pluto in your Solar Return chart, over this twelve-month period until your next birthday, the emphasis is on intensity in relationship, art and money situations. This is likely to be a year defined by unconscious forces and motivations - both your own and those of significant partners in your life.

If you are single you may become almost obsessively attracted to a new relationship this year. If you are in an existing relationship, the test of power between the two of you could become a crucial theme. You will likely experience such emotional intensity for a purpose; as you come to a deeper sense of intimacy with yourself and others, and a more fully established concept of your own self-worth, you will emerge with a better handle on personal power.

There could also be challenges to face in the form of financial ups and downs. These could even involve another person's power over your money, which could have the ultimate benefit of forcing you to reclaim your own sovereignty. You and potentially your partner may also be challenged over the course of this year-long period to come into some new way of being together with each other. If either of you are unwilling to go down and do some serious digging within your psyche then the manipulation and power plays between you could become competitive or even ruthless.

On the other hand you might each be able to realize that you are only limited by your own inability to trust and to allow true intimacy. Much can be done to encourage a more positive manifestation of your relationship energy as the year unfolds. You can truly experience the power and the magic of healing love.

Mars in weak opposition with Uranus

The planetary energies are polarized; outer events stimulate their interaction; integration is the challenge.

With Mars in dynamic aspect to Uranus in your Solar Return chart, over this twelve-month period until your next birthday your energy to innovate will be strong, mixed with major adjustments and upheaval. You will actively pursue your own personal revolution.

This can be an unstable energy pattern to work with. There is the possibility for it to manifest in forms of reckless action. In particular, this year you should be cautious about unexpected accidents and mishaps. These accidents are likely to be as a result of your own hidden anger coming to the surface so that it seems almost like an urge to self-destruct. This makes it very important to remain as aware as you can of exactly what unconscious frustrations you might be feeling.

You're likely to fight for your right to keep on changing your style and being free, no matter what others might think about you. The urge to express your individuality is dominant over the course of this year. You might be tempted to pull the rug out from under your previously status quo world. Due to your own radical actions, your life may change in ways that you were not even aware that you had in you.

You are rebellious and inventive all at once and therefore life can be full of surprises this year, as you break down barriers to growth. It's a challenge, but if you make the conscious effort to work through obstacles and allow this powerful energy to take you where you already needed to go, then you can transform your life path, channeling your actions into positive transformation.

Mars in weak conjunction with Chiron

The strongest blend of the energies represented by these two planets.

With Mars conjunct or in dynamic aspect to Chiron in your Solar Return chart, over this twelve-month period until your next birthday there is an emphasis on healing deep-seated wounds you may have regarding self-assertion.

This is a year when you might find that painful issues emerge with the way that you assert your will. You might be afraid of really stepping out and showing yourself in your true colors, for a variety of reasons, and this could be the year that you get closer to acknowledging how you have been wounded in the past, and finally moving beyond it. What comes forward into the light of day for better understanding and acceptance may also include problems in handling aggression from others.

It could be that these types of issues stem from early experiences either as a child with parental trauma or as a young person dealing with your peers. It's likely that you will now confront your own past wounds in this area in a more assertive and

proactive way. You are beginning to learn firsthand how to become more assertive, not from the standpoint of bluff and bluster, but rather from the standpoint of a deeper sense of self-confidence.

There is also the potential for anger to come up over the course of this year, which will have the effect of tuning you in to where you have been traumatized in the past and where you still hold onto patterns of behavior that no longer serve you in the present. You have the potential to use this spiritual sword with greater wisdom, cutting through any sense of intimidation that previously held you back from personal renewal.

Pluto in weak opposition with Chiron

The planetary energies are polarized; outer events stimulate their interaction; integration is the challenge.

With Pluto conjunct or in dynamic aspect to Chiron in your Solar Return chart, over this next twelve month period the emphasis is on healing that comes to you through having to dwell into the most purely intense and terrifying depths of your greatest fears and scars, past and present.

Indeed, there could be an event this year, which in some ways is deeply wounding and yet which can lead you through to an ultimately healing circumstance. You can look to the matters ruled by the houses in which these planets are placed to describe the area where your most intense experience is likely to occur.

The lesson for you will be to use sheer willpower to prevent your pain from damaging you further, or to prevent you from damaging anyone else. If you make the effort in the times of your greatest need to intimately connect with the deeper part of yourself and access its potency then you can heal from dysfunctional patterning and find the path of renewal.

It is possible to increase your level of awareness this year with regard to ancient trauma that has been walled away and which is no longer serving your highest good. Accepting and then letting go of controlling and manipulative habitual behavior can actually promote self-healing through understanding, and this is the major message of this powerful year for you.

Glossary

To learn more about astrology, visit www.astrograph.com.

Ascendant

The point in the sky of the Eastern horizon. In the chart, the Ascendant is represented by the horizontal line at the left hand side of the chart which crosses between the Twelfth and First Houses. The sign on the Ascendant is also referred to as the Rising Sign.

Aspects

When the relative positions of two planets in the horoscope form a significant angle with each other, they are said to be in aspect with one another. The type and quality of the aspect is determined by the number of degrees between the two planets and is only considered significant if it is within a narrow range of degrees, or orb. A list of the aspects used in this report is given below.

- Conjunction — $0^\circ \pm 8$ degrees
- Opposition — $180^\circ \pm 8$ degrees
- Trine — $120^\circ \pm 8$ degrees
- Square — $90^\circ \pm 8$ degrees
- Sextile — $60^\circ \pm 6$ degrees
- Inconjunct — $150^\circ \pm 4$ degrees

Chart Comparison

An astrological technique in which the planets of two individuals are shown in a bi-wheel chart, one within the other. This allows the inter-aspects between the two charts to be examined.

Composite Chart

An astrological technique in which the midpoints of two individuals' planetary positions are used to create a third chart, the composite chart, which is then interpreted as the chart of the relationship itself as an independent entity.

Horoscope

Originally horoscope referred to the astrological chart itself, but is now popularly used to refer to the description of how current planetary positions are affecting you personally, as in "your monthly horoscope."

Midheaven

The point in the sky directly overhead relative to the position on Earth. In the chart, the Midheaven is represented by the

vertical line at the top of the chart between the Ninth and Tenth Houses.

Natal

From Latin, meaning of or pertaining to birth; therefore your birth chart, or planetary positions at birth.

Nodes

The Lunar Nodes are the two points where the Moon's orbital path crosses the plane of the ecliptic (the plane of the Earth's orbit around the Sun). Symbolically they represent talents and life path, or destiny.

Planets

In astrology, the word planets is used to describe astrologically significant points in the sky which includes the Sun and Moon, as well as many objects that are not currently astronomically defined as planets such as Chiron and Pluto.

Transits

Aspects formed between the current positions of the planets and the positions of your natal planets at the time and place you were born.